

REDS DEVILS MEADOW-POSTPILE shuttle system



INYO NATIONAL FOREST
Pacific Southwest Region
FOREST SERVICE - U.S. Department of Agriculture



Why a Shuttle?

One of the best-loved and most frequently visited recreation areas in the Eastern Sierra is the Reds Meadow-Devils Postpile area. A summer day finds visitors fishing the San Joaquin River, visiting Devils Postpile National Monument and Rainbow Falls, camping, picnicking, and hiking or horseback riding into the wilderness.

The great number of vehicles driving into the valley has caused problems. Parking and road congestion interfere with the enjoyment of the scenic surroundings. Plant and animals, soil, water and air are all affected. Dust has been a problem.

To alleviate this situation a shuttle bus system was instituted in 1979. The busses are operated by Quicksilver Bus Lines under a special permit from the Forest Service.

Many benefits will be provided to the visitor through the shuttle system. By leaving the driving to someone else, you can enjoy the beautiful surroundings. Wear and tear on your vehicle is eliminated. You save gas and avoid the problems of scarce parking and traffic congestion. Buses are propane powered to reduce air pollution. Opportunities for loop hiking trips are enhanced, with shuttle service back to the beginning point. Campers in the valley will be able to visit valley points of interest without driving place to place.

We hope you explore all of these possibilities and more.

Comments concerning the shuttle bus system or requests for more information should be addressed to:

Forest Service
Mammoth Visitor Center
P.O. Box 148
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
(714) 934-2505

Shuttle buses will leave the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area parking lot according to the schedules posted. The following stops will be made on every trip. (Numbers refer to stops on the map).

- ① **Agnew Meadows:** Trailheads for Shadow, Ediza, Thousand Island and Garnet Lakes; Pacific Crest and John Muir Trails. Pack station and camping.
- ② **Starkweather Lake:** Fishing
- ③ **Upper Soda Springs Campground:** Camping, river fishing, 1/2 mile walk.
- ④ **Pumice Flat Campground Turnoff:** Camping, group camping (by reservation only), Ranger's Cabin, pay phone and amphitheatre.
- ⑤ **Minaret Falls Campground Turnoff:** Camping, view of the falls from riverbank, river fishing; 1 mile hike from bus stop.
- ⑥ **Devils Postpile National Monument:** Camping, picnicking, Ranger Station, pay phone, information, books and maps, tours and programs; 1/4 mile walk to the Postpile formation. Trailheads for Minaret and Beck Lakes, Summit Meadow and the John Muir Trail.
- ⑦ **Sotcher Lake:** Fishing, day hiking, picnicking and photography.
- ⑧ **Reds Meadow Campground:** Camping, bath house, trailheads for Mammoth Pass and Pumice Flat.
- ⑨ **Rainbow Falls Trailhead:** 1 1/4 mile hike to the falls. Trailhead for Fish Creek.
- ⑩ **Reds Meadow Resort:** Pack station, store, cafe, cabins, pay phone.



The road beyond Minaret Summit will be closed to private vehicles between 7:30 am and 5:30 pm daily from June 13 through September 7. Exceptions: Vehicles with a valid camping permit, those carrying individuals confined to a wheelchair, those carrying 11 or more people, overnite resort and pack station guests. Passengers in otherwise exempt vehicles are encouraged to ride the shuttle, especially for travel within the valley. **Travel to and from Minaret Vista is not regulated.**

Please park your car for free at the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area parking lot and purchase a bus ticket inside Mammoth Mountain Inn. The basic fare covers the **round trip** excursion plus unlimited use of buses in the valley.

Basic Fare: \$3.50 per person 4 yrs. & older. \$10 for a family of 4, \$3.50 for each additional member.

Special Fares: \$2.50 for a 1-way ticket for backpackers going **into** the valley.

\$1 for a ride from any point between Agnew Meadows and Reds Meadow Resort. Includes one-way, one-ride trip **out** of the valley

Bus Schedule: The first bus is scheduled to leave the ski area parking lot at 8 am each morning. Buses will leave every 1/2 hour between 8 am and 10 am, every 1/4 hour between 10 am and 3:30 pm, and every 1/2 hour between 3:30 pm and 5 pm. An Intra-valley bus will run between the hours of 10 am and 5 pm from Agnew Meadows to Reds Meadow Resort and return. The last bus of the day will depart Red's Meadow Resort at 6:15 pm. Many visitors leave the valley on their return trip in mid-afternoon. During these times, returning buses are often full. An early or late afternoon departure time from the valley is suggested to avoid delays. A round trip takes approximately 2 hours.

Schedules and fares are subject to change. Schedules are posted along the bus route and are available along with current price information from Quicksilver Stage Lines (934-3868), Mammoth Ranger Station (934-2505) or the Devils Postpile Ranger Station (934-2289).

Camping: If you plan to camp in the valley, stop at Upper Minaret Entrance Station to purchase your camping permit. If campsites are available, permits will be issued. Permits will not be issued if campgrounds are full. Vehicles with a valid camping permit may proceed to the campground. Camping outside of developed campgrounds in the Reds Meadow Area is prohibited. **Persons with a camping permit must occupy a campsite in the assigned campground on the first night. Failure to do so will result in issuance of a citation.** (36 CFR261.14(h)-failure to occupy site first night.) Group campgrounds at Agnew Meadows and Pumice Flat are available only by advance reservation at the Visitor Center.

Day Use: Pack a lunch, bring your fishing pole, wear your hiking boots, and tote along your swimsuits for an enjoyable day of exploring the valley. Trail quotas do not apply to day hikers but wilderness permits are required for anyone entering wilderness areas.

There are trailhead quotas for overnight travel on all trails leading out of Agnew Meadows, the Devils Postpile, and Reds Meadow. Advance reservations by mail are strongly recommended.

Interpretive Programs: Interpretive programs will be offered by the Forest Service at Pumice Flat. Check posted schedules for details on programs. The National Park Service also offers programs and tours at Devils Postpile.

Pets: We recommend that pets be left home.

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